

REMARKS

The foregoing amendment and the following arguments are provided to impart precision to the claims, by more particularly pointing out the invention, rather than to avoid prior art.

35 U.S.C. § 102(a) Rejections

Examiner rejected claims 1-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by Hougham et al.

To anticipate a claims, the reference must teach every element of the claim. A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference." (Manual of Patent Examining Procedures (MPEP) ¶ 2131.)

Applicant's claims include limitations not disclosed in Hougham. In particular, the independent claims (1, 6, and 11) include the limitation of, or a similar limitation of, *a convective unit to remove internal ambient air to reduce internal ambient air temperature when the computer system is docked, wherein the convection unit forces air into the computer system when the computer system is docked.*

Houghman does not disclose or suggest a convection unit to force air into a computer system. Rather, Houghman discloses:

In many applications the weight of the electronic apparatus on a support as would be the case for a portable computer resting on a docking station may serve as the force urging the thermal reservoir and the cold portion of the Peltier device together. (Hougham, col. 3, lns. 19-24).

Therefore, as a result of Hougham failing to disclose all of the limitations, applicant's independent claim is not anticipated by Hougham.

With regard to applicant's remaining claims, the claims depend from one of the referenced independent claims discussed above, and therefore include the distinguishing claim limitations included in the independent claims. As a result, the dependent claims are also not anticipated by Hougham.

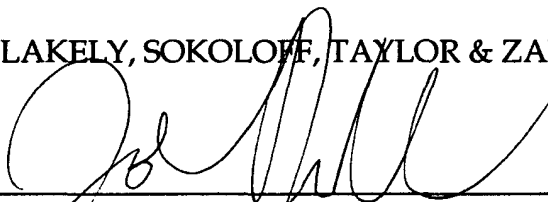
CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite or assist in the allowance of the present application, the Examiner is invited to call John Ward at (408) 720-8300.

Authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any charges that may be due.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John P. Ward', is written over a horizontal line.

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Date: July 8, 2002

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ATTACHMENT A

A marked-up version of the amended claims is as follows:

1. (Amended) An apparatus comprising:
a first aperture to dock a computer system;
at least a second aperture to align with an aperture of the computer system exposing a thermal spreader, when the computer system is docked; and
a convective unit to remove internal ambient air to reduce internal ambient air temperature when the computer system is docked, wherein the convection unit forces air into the computer system when the computer system is docked.
2. (Canceled).
3. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the convection unit exhales air from the computer system when the computer system is docked.
4. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein a temperature of the thermal spreader is reduced via air movement generated by the convention unit.
5. (Amended) The apparatus of claim [2] 1, wherein the apparatus includes a cooling unit to generate air to forced into the computer system that is of a lower temperature compared to an ambient air temperature within said computer system.

6. (Amended) A computer system comprising:
a first aperture to align with an aperture of a docking station when the computer system is docked, the first aperture exposing a thermal spreader within the computer system, the aperture providing an air passage way for air movement generated by a convective unit in the docking station, wherein the aperture aligned with the thermal spreader receives air movement in response to the convective unit in the docking station forcing air into the computer system.
7. The computer system of claim 6, wherein a temperature of the thermal spreader is reduced via air movement generated by the convention unit.
8. (Canceled).
9. The computer system of claim 6, wherein the aperture aligned with the thermal spreader releases air movement in response to the convective unit in the docking station exhaling air from within the computer system.
10. (Amended) The computer system of claim [8] 6, wherein the air forced into the computer station from the docking station is at a temperature lower than an ambient temperature within the computer system.

11. (Amended) A method of cooling a computer system comprising:
receiving a docking of a computer system;
aligning a set of apertures of a docking station with a set of
apertures of the computer system exposing a thermal spreader within the
computer system;
a convective unit in the docking station removing internal ambient
air from the computer system when the computer system is docked;
the docking station removing internal ambient air from the
computer system when the computer system is docked by the docking
station exhaling air from within the computer system.
12. (Amended) The method of claim [12] 11, further including:
the docking station removing internal ambient air from the
computer system when the computer system is docked by the docking
station forcing air into the computer system.
13. (Canceled).
14. The method of claim 12, further including:
providing air to the computer station from the docking station at a
temperature lower than an ambient temperature within the computer
system.

15. The method of claim 11, further including:
reducing a temperature of the thermal spreader via air movement
generated by the convection unit of the docking station.